Application No. 09/776,248

Inventor: Hawkins, B.J.

Examiner: Charles R Kyle

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October 19, 2005

The Honorable Commissioner of Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO COMMUNICATION MAILED APRIL 21, 2005

Please find response to Office communication below`. I have filed for an extension and enclosed the required fee of \$510.00.

Responses

Claims 12-24

Claim 12 is corrected, "allowing prospective suppliers to <u>assess or view</u> the requisition on line"

Claim 17 recites "authorized supplier" <u>authorized supplier is intended</u>. Potential and authorized suppliers have access, authorized suppliers are notified.

Claim 20 recites steps a) - d); this sequence of steps is the method for the prospective supplier. The sequence of step identifiers in Claim 12 is the method for the organization.

Claim 21 recites steps e) - g); the Examiner may have overlooked that these are additional and different step identifiers which include "changing the requisition to a closed status"; "reviewing the bids"; and "selecting based on the organizations selection criteria".

Claim 22 recites steps a) – b); the Examiner may have overlooked that these are additional and different step identifiers, which include "time period during which said prospective suppliers who have a bid to alter or withdraw their bid; and "setting a specific time when bids can no longer be withdrawn or altered".